

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) A process for the treatment of ~~perception deafness~~ hearing loss caused by damaged inner ear sensory hair cells, the process comprising the step of at least partly inhibiting or eliminating the action of ~~at least one cell cycle inhibitor selected from the group consisting of p21^{Cip1}, p27^{Kip1} and p57^{Kip2}~~ present in the inner ear by local administration of ~~an active ingredient~~ p27^{Kip1} antisense molecules to the inner ear ~~that promotes~~ thereby promoting regeneration of the sensory hair cells of the inner ear.

29-30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 28, characterized in that the regeneration of the sensory cells of the inner ear takes place by stimulating proliferation of the supporting cells of the inner ear.

32-62. (Canceled)

63. (Currently amended) A process for promoting regeneration and growth of sensory hair cells in the inner ear of a mammalian subject in need thereof, the process comprising the step of locally administering ~~an active ingredient that at least partly inhibits or eliminates the action of at least one cyclin dependent kinase inhibitor selected from the group consisting of p21^{Cip1}, p27^{Kip1}~~ antisense molecules to the inner ear in an amount sufficient to promote regeneration and growth of sensory hair cells in the inner ear ~~and p57^{Kip2}~~.

64-66. (Canceled)